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FUTURE FOR RUBBER IS BRIGHT

(Continued from Page One.)

maintain it. The rubber growers' association might deny that certain grades are the standard after they have been bought by regular purchasers, but all that the purchasers know is that it came from Hawaii. They won't know that it came from a certain plantation, while all others are keeping up to the standard. To make the rubber business a success it is necessary to grow other crops that could be sold in rather large quantities to the larger plantations. Of course, the difficulties confronting the small farmer in Hawaii were greater than those which confront a mainland farmer, owing to the transportation cost, and such.

Taking bananas as an instance, Doctor Wilcox said there have been dozens of shipments from Honolulu to the mainland which have arrived in San Francisco in good condition but the receipts were so small that the freight could not be paid. A man on Maui can not therefore raise bananas and other like products and expect to market them in San Francisco.

The pineapple situation is somewhat similar, especially as to shipping fresh fruit. The shipment of fresh pineapples, he said is very discouraging on account of the tremendous loss from rot, and the enormous cost of shipping in cold storage, to prevent that rot, is almost prohibitive. He instanced shipments from one pineapple plantation where they have practically lost \$4500 on their crop the receipts not having even paid for the freights.

Under these conditions there are left only a very few crops which can be safely grown by the small grower with the idea that there is to be a certain market for the stuff. He had no hesitation in saying that rubber can be grown that will give a reasonable price for whatever of that crop he gets, provided it is brought to the market in a standard form.

He spoke of his recent visit to the mainland and the fact that in many instances where he registered at a hotel, rubber men came to him and asked if rubber was being produced in Hawaii. They wanted to know how much they could get here.

He believed that cotton could be grown as a byproduct with rubber, but did not recommend tobacco, as the latter required too much soil strength, which would have a bad effect on the rubber trees.

Tapping in Java.

F. T. P. Waterhouse, who recently returned from a visit to two rubber plantations in Java in which he is interested, gave an interesting talk on the methods of tapping trees there. He said the coolies were better trained nowadays and that a gong now used brought more latex than heretofore. Cuts were different today than a few years ago. The old herringbone system produced a lumpy bark. He gave an idea of the methods of caring for the latex after the tree was tapped. He said that owing to the great demand today for rubber younger trees were being tapped, but this system, of course, required a larger number of trees to be tapped to get the same weight of biscuits of rubber, than from older ones.

Mr. Waterhouse said his company in Java was quite up to date and that it was using disc harrows to cultivate the land between rows of rubber trees.

Enemies of Trees.

E. M. Ehrhorn, entomologist of the board of agriculture, gave an interesting informal talk on the enemies of rubber trees and cited the shot-hole fungus and the aphid which covered the leaves as on banyan trees with a dark covering. For this he felt that Bordeaux wash would answer the purpose, of course, taking the trees when young and not when they have attained a great height.

Tells of Mexican Rubber.

A Mr. Jarvis, a rubber planter of Mexico, stated that a plantation in which he was interested in Mexico was about a year old. The first month they planted twenty acres from wild plants from the forest. These are now doing well. Last May they planted 250,000 trees entirely from seed. From tapings they have obtained a standard of 98 per cent. The American Manufacturing Company of Oakland pronounced their samples the very best.

At the morning session a number of papers were read. Mr. Lindsay gave statistics concerning the industry.

There are in the Islands five incorporated companies whose principal business is the growing of rubber. Statistics were read from all of these and also from two individual planters. The whole Territory was represented with the exception of Oahu and Kauai. Six reports were received from Maui and one from Hawaii. The acreage controlled by these companies and individuals is 5599 acres. The acreage planted to date is 1338 acres, viz: 242 in Hevea, 1092 in Ceara and four acres with other varieties. The total number of rubber trees planted is 430,140, of which 79,940 are Hevea, 349,400 in Ceara and 800 with other varieties.

Four plantations practice clean cultivation, the managers of two of these considering it absolutely necessary. From reports received there are 11,000 rubber trees that may possibly be tapped commercially during the year 1910. Fertilizers are considered too expensive to use in sufficient quantities at present to be beneficial.

C. J. Austin was the first speaker, and spoke at length on Hevea and Ceara. He seemed inclined to favor the former, although it was a slower grower than the latter. "Hevea is coming in strong," said Mr. Austin, "and the average time for tapping should not exceed six years."

L. F. Turner's paper on inter crops was exceedingly interesting and should prove of inestimable value to prospective rubber growers. By planting "catch crops," such as corn, cucumbers, radishes and melons between the rows of young rubber, expenses may be minimized to a great extent. These will not exhaust the soil if properly looked after. A good method is to let out certain portions of the land to Japanese cultivators, who will look after the growing rubber trees in exchange for the use of the land between the rows of trees.

"The Rubber Situation, 1905-1910,"

was the next paper, read by W. G. Anderson, which at first cast rather a damper on the meeting. The first rubber plantation was incorporated in January, 1905. The plans of this company were, broadly speaking, to plant Ceara the first year, believing they would yield earlier than Hevea, and to follow with Hevea, when seeds of this variety had been obtained. Returns were expected from the first trees in 1909 at the rate of one-half pound per tree, to be gathered at a collection cost of 30c. per pound and to sell for \$1 per pound.

The first unforeseen difficulty was encountered when the young trees were transplanted from the nurseries. Rats ate most of the first year's planting before a method could be found of circumventing them and to check their ravages. As fast as the trees were replaced, they were eaten off again. This multiplied expenses and divided profits by a large figure and much less was realized from the year's work than was expected.

Prof. Ralph S. Hosmer, superintendent of forestry, then read a paper on "Rubber and Reforestation." "To those familiar with local conditions it goes without saying that certain sections are better adapted to given crops than are others. The rubber industry is a case in point. Rubber demands for its best development certain conditions of soil, moisture and elevation which can only be met in particular districts," he said. "From the investigation of the Federal Forest Service and of others connected with the broad movement that, within the last few years, has come to bear the name 'Conservation,' it is apparent that in the future there is going to be a decided scarcity of wood. In this Territory we already have to pay higher prices for lumber and other wood products than are customary in many parts of the country. In connection with rubber growing it may or not be possible and advisable to establish plantations of eucalyptus and other trees, but the thought that I wish to leave with the members of the Hawaiian Rubber Planters' Association is that those who establish forest plantations now, whether of rubber, eucalyptus or of any other kind, will reap sufficient reward in the years to come to justify the thought and financial outlay that may be necessary to get such groves started."

F. L. Waldron read a paper on "Marketing Rubber." On account of the small area suitable for the raising of rubber trees, Hawaii can never be a producer to the extent of influencing or rather bearing upon the market value of rubber at any part of importance. At the present time Hawaii probably contains the most thorough and painstaking sugar growers in the world. These remarks not only apply to the raising of sugar but also to the systematic method of raising and marketing rubber. Rubber growers of the Territory will realize good results, providing they market as a unit and the results will be particularly apparent and gratifying at any time when the value of rubber might be at a comparative low level of price as it now is high.

AMERICANS WILL PRESENT STATUE

BUENOS AYRES.—American citizens—or as they are called in South America, to distinguish them from South Americans, "North Americans," resident in Buenos Ayres, are planning to present to the Argentinean government a statue of Gen. George Washington, upon the centennial of the declaration of independence of this country in 1910. The interest of South Americans in the history of Washington is particularly keen, since the two great South American liberators, Gen. San Martin and Simon Bolivar, of the southern and northern half of South America, respectively, derived great inspiration from the achievements and ideas of Washington.

BLOM'S TOYS

FOR

FORT STREET, OPPOSITE CATHOLIC CHURCH.

RUBBER MEN JOIN IN BANQUET

(Continued from Page One.)

time, but petered out like the investments already mentioned, and to hear Mr. Castle tell it, one would imagine that everything he touched at this time was a failure, only that he occasionally slipped in a little smiling allusion to the fact that he was saying nothing about sugar.

The pith of Mr. Castle's talk was that all industries are thankless to the pioneers who introduce them. He drew attention to the fact that few of the original sugar people now own any of the plantations. They worked only to lose, but the fruits of their experience were gathered by others who saw how to make a success where they had failed.

He spoke of the tobacco industry and how well it was doing on Hawaii. He compared this with liquor manufacture and defended it as a thoroughly justifiable business.

He also referred to the pineapple industry and promised a bright future for it. He said that when he was in Boston he had occasion to go into Pierce & Co.'s store, one of the big groceries of Massachusetts. He saw canned pineapple with the name "Pierce & Co." very large and "Hawaiian pineapples" very small on the tin. Inquiry elicited the information that people all wanted Hawaiian pineapples and that there was a far greater demand than supply.

Finally Mr. Castle referred to rubber. He stated that he knew little of it and was not financially interested in it at present but might be in the future. At present he has a man on Hawaii experimenting in tobacco, sisal and rubber and he could see a chance to make a final success of all three of them.

Mr. Castle finished with the quotation that appears above. Coming from a man of his financial and social position, his speech was a great encouragement to the rubber men who had gathered to have a friendly reunion after the more or less tedious business of the day.

J. L. Coke of Maui, was the next speaker, he spoke in a straightforward way about the money and interest that the Maui people had put into rubber and he felt confident that they would not lose by it.

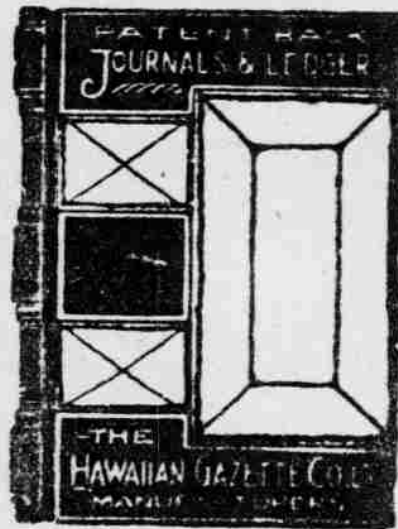
Dan Logan made a very witty

speech. He was introduced as the father of the rubber industry in Hawaii, and he explained how he came to gain the title. It seems that he wrote an article on an interview with some men—who had come down to exploit rubber. It was more or less of a roast on the government for not allowing them to use lands on Oahu for the purpose. But the result was that some Maui people took the matter up and the first Hawaiian rubber plantation was started. Mr. Logan, with his quick pronounced brogue, interpolated a great many witticisms that kept everybody laughing.

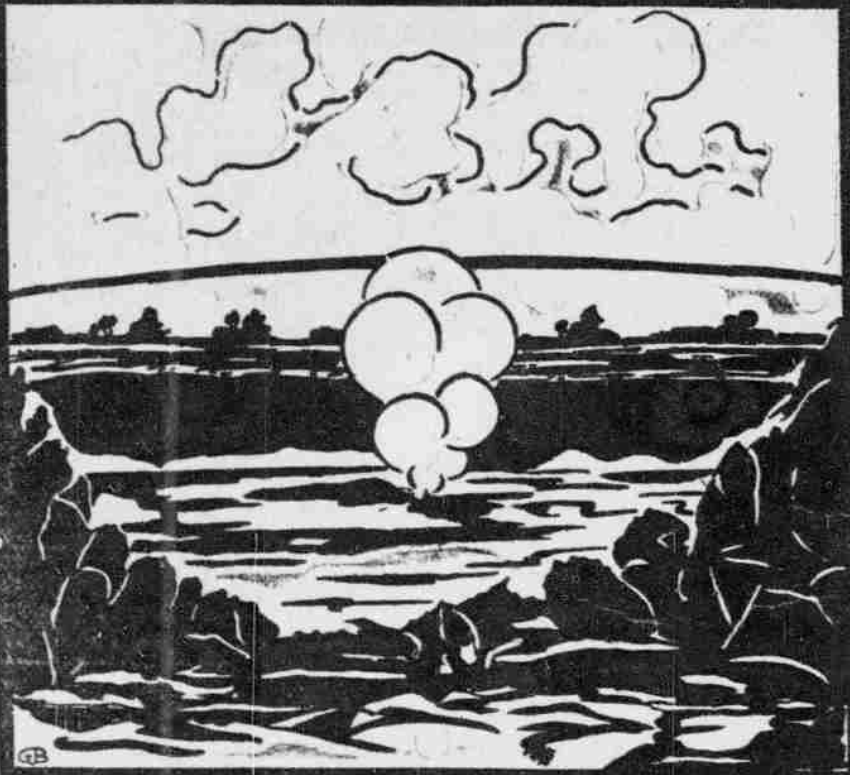
C. D. Lufkin made a short speech, in which he spoke of the rubber business and raised many a laugh by his punning remarks on "elastic coinage." He was in excellent form, and the vein of humor that ran through his speech pleased everybody.

L. G. Blackman, W. W. Thayer and G. R. Ewart also spoke. The latter has had experience with rubber trees in Mexico and South America, and he gave it as his opinion that the new industry had just as good possibilities here as anywhere else.

Among those present were Fred L. Waldron, R. S. Hosmer, W. W. Thayer, L. G. Blackman, Q. Q. Bradford, James L. Coke, T. M. Church, C. J. Austin, D. B. Murdoch, Charles Baldwin, H. Streubeck, D. C. Lindsay, John Gill, R. A. Wadsworth, C. D. Lufkin, Dan Logan, G. R. Ewart, Dr. A. B. Clarke, R. B. Booth, B. von Damm, R. J. Pratt, C. M. V. Forster, W. A. Anderson, J. Clarke Jr., A. L. Castle, F. T. P. Waterhouse, W. R. Castle.



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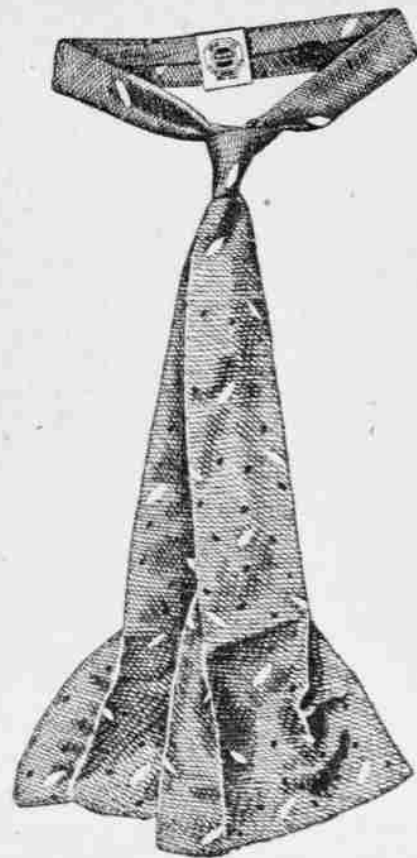
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